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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Grindstaff et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No. 09/770,031

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: January 25, 2001

Docket No. 707.001US1

Title: SHAPED CHEESE RECONSTRUCTION WITH TRANSGLUTAMINASE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

The following documents are being submitted:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- Form 1449
- Copies of 26 reference(s)
- Transmittal Sheet
- Return postcard

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
York Business Center, Suite 205, 3209 W. 76th St.
Edina, MN 55402 (952-832-9090)

By: Mark A. Litman
Atty: Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 1, 2001.

Jill F. Strandson Mark Litman
Name

Mark A. Litman
Signature

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) or (c)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) respectfully submit(s) the items of information on the enclosed Form 1449 for the attention of the Examiner in the above-identified application.

This statement should be considered because it is either filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits or it is submitted after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits but before the mailing date of a final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311. No fee is due since this statement is submitted either before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits or is certified under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies that this statement is submitted wherein each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counter part foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) and/or a copy of each document is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office in a parent application in accordance with
37 C.F.R. §.1.98(d).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103. In addition, Applicant(s) do(es) not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended, and reserve the right to establish otherwise under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or others.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. According to M.P.E.P. §609, Applicant(s) request(s) that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account Number 50-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD GRINDSTAFF et al.

By their Representatives,

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
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Date: 1 February 2001

By: Mark A. Litman
Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Letter is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 7, 2001.

Mark A. Litman
Name

Mark A. Litman
Signature